Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now in Week 3 of our phased plan of wider opening and what has been significantly noticeable is the calm, assured confidence of those children returning. Across this week, we have continued to see our numbers rise and that the systems and practices put into place have supported our increased safety measures.

If your child has been given a place within school, please could you ensure that clothing and shoes can be easily fastened, as adults need to adhere to the 2-metre social distancing rule. Water bottles must be labelled and only water is acceptable for break times and lessons. As we do not have the ‘free fruit’ for schools delivered, your child can bring fresh fruit, dried fruit or vegetables for their break-time. Packed lunches are left to the discretion of the parents/carers.

I know the staff have been very inspired by the ‘postings’ of work undertaken by the children in their class from ‘The Oak Academy’ as this supports the Teacher’s communication with those in the school setting and those working within the home setting.

Each day they will send a message to each pupil in their class to inform them of what work to post and this will be based on the Oak Academy lessons and activity tasks, as this enables the Teacher to give feedback on the same objectives, to their pupils, whether in the school setting, for learning, or the home setting. A typical ‘daily’ message on Class Dojo, specific to the year group, could be:

‘Good morning - it's Wednesday and today you will be learning more about Biography writing and identifying key features. In Maths you are involved in Year 5 long multiplication. Science today is learning about different components in an electrical circuit following on from last week's lesson on static electricity. Please post some of your work for our feedback.

The DFE’s advice is that schools build a common learning platform to ‘blend’ those at home with those in the school setting. However, we fully support and appreciate each child will also be involved in many other mechanisms for learning as there are many, many resources that parents/carers are using.

‘The 21st century classroom has no walls – thanks to the internet, schools can continue to support and mentor learning during the coronavirus pandemic. In partnership we can continue to build the children’s skills and knowledge, whilst exposing them to creative ways to learn. ‘Blended’ learning is the continued aim as it has become clear most pupils will not be returning before the end of the academic year 2019-2020. Beginning in the primary classroom, blended learning provides children with the tools they need to become autonomous learners and prepare themselves for a lifelong education and a successful future.’

During the week beginning 13th July, you will receive an Annual School Report for your child. We aim to send these in PDF format to a secure email address. The DFE advice to schools on Report writing for 2019-2020 can be found below:
**Attendance record:** The Department for Education (DfE) intends to remove the requirement to report pupils’ attendance data for the 2019 to 2020 academic year, in recognition of the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on the possible attendance.

**National curriculum assessments:** Following the cancellation of the 2019 to 2020 national curriculum assessments, it will not be possible to include outcomes of key stages 1 and 2 tests or teacher assessments in this year’s reports. It will also not be possible to include comparative information about the attainment of pupils of the same age in the school or nationally. Providing reports in 2019 to 2020, schools should take a proportionate approach in deciding what information to include within their pupils’ reports. It is likely that, in many cases, it will not be possible for reports to cover the period of partial school closures. Schools can refer to work completed at home.

Schools should decide the appropriate level of detail required within reports recognising that pupils may not have completed their full year’s education. (DFE)

As we approach the beginning of July, we also know more families will be returning directly to the workplace and will, therefore, require a ‘school’ place.

Please contact the school via telephone (between 8.30am -3pm) or email if we can support you further.

We continue to thank you for working in partnership with the school and hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jayne Stevenson

Headteacher